



**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

Application Number	09/578,224
Filing Date	May 24, 2000
First Named Inventor	Thomas Schwalbe
Group Art Unit	1764
Examiner Name	Leung, J.A.
Attorney Docket No.	CELL0013

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This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See *Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice*, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. Previously submitted

i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. Other _____

b. Enclosed

i. X Amendment/Reply

ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. X Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(i) required)

b. Other _____

3. Request for Extension of Time

Applicant respectfully requests that the shortened statutory period for response to the _____ dated _____, set to expire on _____, be extended by _____ month(s) to expire on _____. The \$_____ fee is enclosed herewith in the check noted below.

4. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. X The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 01-1940.

i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17(e)

ii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. X Any additional required fees

iv. Other _____

b. X Check No. 7121 in the amount of \$385.00 is enclosed, to include the \$385.00 small entity RCE filing fee.

c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Typed/Printed Name Ronald M. Anderson

Registration Number: 28,829

Signature

Ron Anderson

Date: January 12, 2004

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

Express Mail Label No. EV286322129US

Date of Deposit: January 12, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Sharon S. Anderson

(Name of person mailing paper/fee)

Sharon S. Anderson

(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Director of the Patent and Trademark Office, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.



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CUSTOMER NUMBER 25268

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Thomas Schwalbe et al. Attorney Docket No: CELL0013
Serial No: 09/578,224 Group Art Unit: 1764
Filed: May 24, 2000 Examiner: Leung, J. A.
Title: MODULAR CHEMICAL PRODUCTION SYSTEM INCORPORATING A
MICROREACTOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Bellevue, Washington 98004

January 12, 2004

TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE:

This is Preliminary Amendment filed with an RCE and is in response to the Office Action dated October, 17, 2003. Applicants request that the above-identified application be amended as set forth below and that the Examiner reconsider the application in view of these amendments and the Remarks that follow. The claims are amended as set forth below.